

Briefly Told

How they view diplomats in Europe is illustrated by a Christiania paper which says: "The European diplomats are at work again. We may soon expect another war."

Scientific tests reveal that, mentally, the American people average about the age of 13. The marvel is that society holds together with our juvenile mind.

The founder of "Chatterbox" has just died. He was Canon John Erskine Clarke who was a clergyman in Derby, England, when in 1867 he founded the famous children's annual. He remained its editor until four years ago.

The passion for "self-expression" is the supreme curse of our age, says Prof. Irving Babbitt, of Harvard. "Self-control" is the antidote and the cure for the "ethical passivity" of the age.

The common rat landed in the United States about 1775. In 80 years it had made its way across the continent to the Pacific Coast.

The war isn't over. A postman near Mons picked up a hand grenade on his rounds recently. It exploded, killing one and wounding two.

Japanese working people are allowed two days off a month, and are often induced not to take that many. There is no Sunday in Japan.

A stray dog, befriended by a Chelmsford, Mass., family, later saved the entire family from being burned to death while they slept.

The first bank that has ever been operated on a vessel is a branch of the Bank of London and has been established on the liner Imperator.

Art is looking up. An offer of \$5,000,000 was made to Sir William Orpen if he would come to the United States and paint the portraits of 300 distinguished Americans. He refused. He said it would take 300 years to fill the contract.

Wanted—A new name for the planet on which we live. "Earth," says a New York Sun correspondent, "doesn't fit the dignity of this world." He suggests "Pre-Paradise."

The entry of the Jew and the exit of the Gentile has been the chief change in London's East End, according to F. N. Charrington who has just completed 50 years of welfare work in that quarter.

Bertrand Russell, whose pacifism brought him into collision with the British authorities and led to his forced withdrawal from the chair of mathematics in Cambridge University, has been reinstated in his position. Thus one by one the over-emphasis of the war period are being readjusted.

Prince von Buelow and a son-in-law of former Italian Premier Crispi are reported to be partners in the project to publish a German-Italian newspaper in Rome.

"The United States could not, if it would, assume the burdens of all the earth. It cannot undertake to finance the requirements of Europe because it cannot shape the fiscal policies of the governments of Europe."—Secretary Glass.

Arguing against the introduction of the American "skyscraper" into British cities, the Manchester Guardian says: "New York is a freak city. It has made in a wonderful way the very most of its physical handicap. It could not run to length and breadth and it has therefore run to height."

Soviet Russia has abolished life insurance and confiscated all premium income.

Lord Liverhulme is said to be the world's greatest landlord. His holdings extend from North Scotland to West Africa.

The Chinese boycott against Japanese goods is shown by customs returns at Shanghai to be almost a complete blockade. The result is a great stimulus to Chinese industries, especially in cotton and coal.

Even dogs are included in the reparation which is being demanded of Germany. Dogs are an important labor animal in Belgium and France, and were destroyed in great numbers by the war.

"A universal feeling, whether well or ill founded, cannot be safely disregarded."—Abraham Lincoln.

"The announcement of the sailing of the first American destroyers was published in Berlin four days before they reached Queenstown," says Admiral Sims.

The London Times' "personal" columns sometimes contain code messages, as this: "FHSSTINSSS."

George Bernard Shaw says that England ought to thank Holland for refusing to give up the kaiser—"it saves him from having to tell what he knows about the war."

The mystery of the battle of Jutland slowly clears up. When it is understood that the British shot straight against the sides of the German ships, and that the Germans knew they would do this and armored their ship sides heavily; when it is also understood that the Germans shot in the air so that their shells would descend at a steep angle on the British decks, and that the British knew they would do this but did not sufficiently armor their decks—then you have some illuminating information.

Max Beerbohm when recently looking over some of his early work was strongly tempted to make drastic revisions—"but it struck me that if at the time when I wrote it I had caught an elderly and pedantic stranger in the act of tampering with my manuscripts, I should have been enraged—so I have forborne to tamper."

Jewish tradesmen in Poland are said to be giving up their licenses rather than obey the law which compels Saturday opening.

The pig, says M. Francis Jammes, is a clean animal. He roots about in the ground, and the earth is clean. He wallows in mud, but this is his way of bathing himself, just as birds flutter about in the dust taking a dust bath. Altogether, the pig is said to be "a charming and intelligent animal."

The 300th anniversary of the sailing of the Mayflower will be celebrated in England, to be followed by the celebration of its arrival at Plymouth, Mass.

Large emigration from Germany to Mexico is expected.

Anybody who ever broke into print in Europe can now reap wealth on the American lecture platform, says Benjamin de Casseres. "The Germans are yet to come. Within ten years, half of Germany's professors, poets, playwrights, atom sleuths and ghost netters will be on the stump in America teaching the Yankees *kultur* where they left off. What Germany lost at Versailles she will regain at Carnegie Hall."

It is said that vigorous propaganda is being carried on by Allies in the occupied part of Germany for the purpose of alienating the Rhinelanders from Germany, and that the German Government has protested against it.

Senators of the Military Committee say that officers are resigning and men deserting "in droves" because of their inability to make army pay meet expenses.

Europe is now reading novels by native Moroccan, Egyptian and Turkish authors. The reigning Turkish novel is notable for its author's chivalrous understanding of the most delicate feelings of women.

A strike in the Boston Symphony Orchestra resulted when the concert master left his position.

That the Peace Conference approved a war upon Mexico to be declared after the election of the next American president, is a statement made by Prof. Frederick Starr.

John J. Garrity, Chicago's chief of police, having been put in full charge of police operations in that city "without cumbersome restrictions," says he will rid Chicago of crime in six months or resign.

Dr. George A. Gordon, of Old South Church, Boston, says that the assertion that the conversion of the world is a question of money, is "the superlative blasphemy." He characterizes the financial "drives" of the denominations as "wildcat campaigning by ecclesiastics."

Lincoln always called his law partner "Billy," but the law partner (Herndon) never felt easy in addressing Lincoln otherwise than as "Mr. Lincoln."

France has 1,500,000 milk goats; the number of registered goats in the United States is 2,000.

By lengthening its reading columns a little less than half an inch, thus shortening the top and bottom margins, the Toronto Globe says it will save \$8,000 a year in white paper previously wasted, and will give its readers an additional three columns of reading matter every day.

The British Trades Union Congress voted against the use of the general strike to compel the government to nationalize the mines.

Newspapers reporting the second session of the Council of the League of Nations which met in London in February, noted the vacant chair of America. "America has not yet ratified the Treaty," wrote the matter-of-fact scribes.

An old gentleman of 70 recently entered a university to take up a collegiate course of study. His reason was that he saw no future before him without a college education.

"The cellar will go the way of the saloon before long."—Toronto Globe.

A too loose collar on a dog acts as an irritant.

Major General Sir Charles Rosenthal, of Sydney, has declared his belief that there will be another war within the next year or two. He thinks that Australia should be in a position to fight in any part of the world. Apparently there is a good deal of the "By Jingo" about this Australian major general.

"The self-protective sense is abnormally developed and everyone seems afraid of everyone. Trust, confidence, enthusiasm—these simple virtues are most lacking."

Railroad crossing fatalities numbered 1,500 for 1919.

Whisky seizures from passengers traveling from Montreal to Boston are becoming common at the American border.

The Ferrary stamp collection which was willed by a Parisian to the Berlin Postal Museum and for that reason confiscated by the French Government, contains stamps valued at \$10,000 and \$15,000 each.

Landlords may increase rent only during the month of May, according to a bill favorably reported by the New York legislature.

"Mankind is not redeemed by blood alone," says a French writer on the war; "mankind is redeemed by wisdom, and in war wisdom has no chance."

The war has so far changed educational standards in England that compulsory Greek has been abolished at Cambridge.

"The world has been trying to find a substitute for work."—Irving T. Bush.

A solution which, after one dipping, keeps fruits and vegetables fresh without refrigeration, has been announced by an Australian inventor.

Armenian massacres continue unabated. In this connection it may be recalled that the United States was the preferred mandatory for Armenia, had the Senate permitted it. Under our mandatory the massacres would have been stopped.

Four new flags fly in the world now. The Allies have recognized the flags of Lettland, Esthonia, Georgia and the Hedjiz.

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